



Jack Kofoed Says

Champagne Drinking Led to Firing Squad

A RUSSIAN court decided Penkovsky was a spy for the lousy imperialists and sentenced him to face a firing squad. Spies are a dime a dozen, and firing squads are in frequent action everywhere from Havana to Irkutsk.

But, aside from espionage, Penkovsky opened an interesting point. He was a pretty important fellow, with a chestful of medals from the war, and two widely different reputations . . . as scientist and playboy. Reports have it that Penkovsky was a great hand with the opposite sex. On one occasion, it was said, he drank champagne out of a lady's slipper at a wild Parisian party.

Unless he was drunk at the time, it's hard to understand why a man of the Russian's mental qualities would do anything like that. In these days of open-toed slippers, it's difficult to find a woman whose footgear can hold champagne.

In the second place, even if Penkovsky's inamorata wore the other kind, pardon me for saying so, but I'd rather sip my bubble water from a kitchen cup than a slipper that had been danced in for hours. But, everyone to his taste. The be-medaled scientist will never have the chance to try it again. He was executed by a firing squad in Moscow.